REDUCTION OR REMISSION OF MUNICIPAL TAXES—REPRESENTATION REGARDING

300. Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) have Government or the Municipality of Ernakulam received representations for reduction or remission of municipal taxes on account of large numbers of houses having become vacant within the Municipality;

(*b*) if so, will Government be pleased to consider the question in view of the difficulty felt by a large number of house-owners?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) The Municipality of Ernakulam has received representations.

(*b*) The question is already receiving the attention of the Municipality.

EXPENDITURE ON THE LIVING CREATURES IN THE ZOO AT TRICHUR

301. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the expenditure on the living creatures kept in the zoo at Trichur, giving items of food;

(*b*) what are its establishment charges:

(*c*) what is the purpose of keeping it up;

(*d*) will Government consider abolishing it?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) The feeding expenditure on the living creatures kept in the State Zoo at Trichur during the current year is about Rs. 600 per month as stated below.—

Items of food and their cost for Kumbham 1117

		Rs.	A.	P.			Rs.	A.	P.
1.	Mutton	130	14	2	14.	Oil cake	58	9	6
2.	Beef	132	3	10	15.	Grass	16	5	1
3.	Plantains	49	13	0	16.	Leaves	52	2	0
4.	Milk	52	8	0	17.	Eggs	11	13	4
5.	Chama	0	1	6	18.	Rat snake	0	7	0
6.	Cocoanuts	1	8	0	19.	Frogs	0	0	6½
7.	Tapioca	3	12	0	20.	Rats	0	0	8
8.	Yam	1	13	0	21.	Grass hopper	23	9	6
9.	Boiled rice	9	9	4	22.	Fish	31	6	6
10.	Rice bran	1	4	10	23.	White ants	3	11	0
11.	Salt	3	0	9	24.	Bread	12	3	5
12.	Green gram	2	13	0	25.	Sabola	0	9	0
13.	Bengal gram	0	15	0	26.	Honey	0	9	0

(*b*) The establishment charges for a month is Rs. 74.

(*c*) The Zoo is a living Museum and serves the same purpose as the Museum. It has a highly educative value and is intended to supplement the education given in the schools and colleges.

(*d*) No.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* In view of the present shortage of food materials, does not Government think that a retrenchment will be necessary in the matter of expending the food materials on the living creatures of the Zoo?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar):* No.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I know who eats all these rat-snakes?

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi):* The King Cobra.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Are the Government aware that in Madras all the dangerous animals were shot?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* That is for a different reason.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* How many wild animals have we got in the Zoo now?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar):* I want notice.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will the Government bestow some attention on this question?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg Diwan Peishkar):* On which question?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* As regards the safety of the public from wild animals kept in the Zoo in case something happens.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* That question has been considered. In Madras, I understand that if anything untoward happens the police officers are instructed to enter the zoo and shoot wild animals.

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Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters)*: They have already shot them.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Here, we do not expect that any untoward incident will occur especially in a place like Trichur. If anything happens, probably we may have to adopt the same procedure here.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: Will the Government see that only as the last resort this procedure will be adopted?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Certainly, yes.

ENCROACHMENTS IN THE KUNNAMKULAM TOWN AREA—ACTION TAKEN

302. Mr. K. R. Viswambharan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether any action has been taken by the Revenue Department in 1117 in the matter of encroachments on *poramboke* lands by private parties in the Kunnamkulam Town Council area;

(*b*) if answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, the nature of action taken and with what results;

(*c*) the number of encroachments which have come to the notice of the Revenue Department in 1117; what was the number of encroachments in 1115 and 1116;

(*d*) whether any action has been taken to permanently remove the encroachments?

Mr. M. Raman Menon *(Offg. Diwan Peishkar)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Encroachment action under the Land Conservancy Act was taken in 51 cases in the year 1117. The encroachers were penalised. Most of the encroachments were got removed and action is under progress to get the remaining cases of encroachments removed.

(*c*) The number of encroachments booked is 51. The number of cases booked in 1115 is 25 and in 1116, 29.

(*d*) The question is not clear. When once an encroachment is evicted, the party may encroach again. It is therefore not possible to permanently remove an encroachment so long as the site is left vacant.

KORAN TEACHER—APPOINTMENT OF

303. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have noted a report of the Pazhanji Muslim League meeting in the "Malabar Mail" dated 6th Meenam, 1117;

(*b*) if so, will they be pleased to assign the reason for not aiding the Koran teacher referred to in the report, if that fact is true?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Want of funds.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: May I know the strength of the Muslim students in the schools referred to in the report?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I want notice. The usual rule is, no Koran teacher is allowed unless the class has a strength of more than 20.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: It has a strength of about 200 Muslim boys and girls. Will the Government for the matter of encouragement of education of muslim community of Pazhanji be good enough to appoint a Koran teacher there?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: We will see to that.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan *(Chalakkudi)*: Will these Koran teachers teach Pakistan?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*: I do not think that pakistan is a part of Islam.

APPOINTMENTS IN THE KERALAKALAMANDALAM—PARTICULARS OF

304. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether the appointments to the Keralakalamandalam assumed by the Government are to be by the Staff Selection Board or on their recommendation;

(*b*) who are the persons that have been appointed and what are the salaries or allowances?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction)*:

(*a*) No.

(*b*) (1) Mr. K. Madhavanunny Nayar, Superintendent—Rs. 80.
(2) Mr. V. Narayana Menon, Art Director, Honorarium—Rs. 65 and House allowance—Rs. 10.
(3) K. K. Sivarama Menon, Typist clerk—Rs. 20.
(4) K. Sankaran Nayar, Peon—Rs. 10.
(5) K. Raman Thandan, Gate-keeper—Rs. 8.

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